

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 NRC-05 ERDA-05 ACDA-07 FEA-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 OES-06

DODE-00 INT-05 PM-04 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 288758

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BENC, ENRG, MNUC, NI

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR POWER IN NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 11822

1. DEPTOFF VISITED WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION HEAD-  
QUARTERS IN PITTSBURGH NOVEMBER 9 AND MET (AMONG OTHERS)  
WITH THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF WESTINGHOUSE POWER SYSTEMS  
COMPANY, INCLUDING DAVID K HUNTER WHO VISITED LAGOS TO PUR-  
SUE NUCLEAR REACTOR SALES OPPORTUNITY IN MID-OCTOBER  
IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO VISITS BY OTHER WESTINGHOUSE GROUPS  
LED BY DEFENSE AND PUBLIC SYSTEMS COMPANY PRESIDENT MURRIN  
AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS COMPANY VICE PRESIDENT GAVERT  
(REFTEL, PAR 10). DEPOFF'S NOTES FROM PITTSBURGH VISIT  
HAVE BEEN POUCHED TO EMBASSY E/C SECTION. GIST OF WESTING-  
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HOUSE PORTION IS THAT HUNTER HAD SAME EXPERIENCE IN LAGOS

AS BECHTEL GROUP (REFTEL, PAR 9), I.E. HE WAS NEVER ABLE FIND ANYONE WILLING ACKNOWLEDGE RESPONSIBILITY FOR NUCLEAR MATTERS. WESTINGHOUSE REPS SHOWED CONSIDERABLE CURIOSITY ABOUT NIGERIA AND ABOUT USG ATTITUDES TOWARD NUCLEAR SALES TO NIGERIA. THEY ADMITTED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT MAKING MAJOR SALES EFFORT IF FMG ALREADY COMMITTED TO KRAFTWERKE UNION OR IF USG LIKELY DISAPPROVE OF NUCLEAR EXPORTS TO NIGERIA. THEY

CONFIRMED THAT FOR TIME BEING THEY ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING NIGERIAN POSSIBILITIES, BUT THEY ARE NOT CERTAIN WHAT WHAT NEXT STEP SHOULD BE.

2. WESTINGHOUSE REPS AND DEPARTMENT THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO REMIND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER GARBA THAT ON JULY 30, SAME DAY HE TOLD US FMG WOULD BE BUYING NUCLEAR REACTOR FROM GERMANY, HE ALSO SAID US COMPETITION WOULD BE WELCOME. AS EMBASSY AWARE FROM SEPTTEL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE DID THIS DURING MEETING IN NEW YORK NOVEMBER 13, ADDING THAT AT LEAST TWO US COMPANIES (BECHTEL AND WESTINGHOUSE) HAD MADE HONEST EFFORT BUT FAILED TO FIND RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS IN LAGOS. GARBA REPLIED BLANDLY THAT NEW ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION HAS NOT YET BEEN SET UP.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: CONTINUE TO REPORT NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS (REFTEL IS EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF TIMELY SPOT REPORTING DEPARTMENT WELCOMES). ADVISE WHENEVER OPENINGS APPEAR FOR US COMPANIES TO CONTACT FMG AT EFFECTIVE LEVEL.

4. FYI. HUNTER DENIED THAT MURRIN AND GAVERT GROUPS HAD ANY INTEREST IN NUCLEAR SALES SINCE THEY REPRESENTED THE OTHER TWO MAJOR COMPONENTS OF WESTINGHOUSE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THE WASHINGTON OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION, MURRIN'S GROUP DID DISCUSS ATOMIC POWER WITH SOME RELATIVELY HIGH-RANKING NIGERIAN OFFICIALS, AND HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE OBTAINED "POSITIVE SOUNDINGS." END FYI.

5. FYI. ANOTHER DEPTOFF VISITED GENERAL ELECTRIC IN NEW YORK NOVEMBER 11. DURING BRIEF MEETING WITH EXPORT CONFIDENTIAL

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MANAGER FOR FAR EAST AND AFRICA, HE WAS TOLD THAT SMALLEST G.E. REACTOR PRODUCES 800 MEGAWATTS OF ELECTRICITY AND THAT FMG ONLY INTERESTED IN 600-650 MEGAWATTS. DEPOFF THEREFORE RECEIVED DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT G.E. NOT PURSUING NIGERIAN SALES OPPORTUNITY AT THIS TIME. END FYI.

ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** LAGOS  
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